

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A system for efficiently employing a quick paging channel signal to determine the presence of a forthcoming primary paging channel signal adapted for use with a wireless communications system employing a quick paging channel and a primary paging channel. The system includes a first mechanism for calculating a first decision parameter representative of a quality of a signal environment through which the quick paging channel is propagating. A second mechanism calculates a second decision parameter representative of a value of the quick paging channel signal. A third mechanism indicates, based on the first decision parameter and the second decision parameter, the presence or absence of an immediately forthcoming page message on the primary paging channel. In a specific embodiment, the first decision parameter is based on a pilot signal and a carrier signal to interference ratio associated with the quick paging channel signal. The second decision parameter is based on a combination of the quick paging channel signal and the pilot signal. A fourth mechanism processes the forthcoming page message when the third mechanism indicates the presence of a forthcoming page on the primary paging channel. A fifth mechanism establishes a traffic channel in accordance with the forthcoming page message. A sixth mechanism compares the first decision parameter to a first threshold and selectively activates the fourth mechanism when the first decision parameter is less than the first threshold. A seventh mechanism compares the second decision parameter to a second threshold when the first decision parameter is greater than the first threshold. An eighth mechanism selectively activates the forth
10 mechanism when the second decision parameter is greater than the second threshold. An additional mechanism powers down a receiver section of a wireless communications device associated with the system if the second decision parameter is approximately less than the second threshold.
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